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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/811,700

03/29/2004

Joerg Weshendorff

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04/12/2006

FORD GLOBAL TECHNOLOGIES, LLC.  
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EXAMINER

SLITERIS, JOSELYNN Y

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3616

DATE MAILED: 04/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/811,700	Applicant(s) WESHENDORFF, JOERG	
	Examiner Joselynn Y. Sliteris	Art Unit 3616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5,6,8 and 12-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3,4,7 and 9-11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 3/29/04 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☒ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>03292004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Oath/Declaration***

1. The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

The oath or declaration is defective because:

Although the foreign priority document is listed, it is not checked under "Priority Claimed Under 35 USC 119.

### ***Drawings***

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the installation aid in claims 14 and 15 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering

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of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### ***Claim Objections***

3. Claims 12-15 are objected to because of the following informalities: in claim 12 line 3, "Providing" should be --providing--; in claim 12 line 11, "Fitting" should be --fitting--; in claim 12 line 13, "Fastening" should be --fastening--. Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

6. In claim 12 lines 14-15, the recitation "the spring being compressed and the spring plate lifting off from the mounting of the chassis underframe" is unclear as it appears from the specification and the drawings that it should read as follow: "the spring

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being extended and the mounting of the chassis underframe lifting off from the spring plate". Therefore, claim 12 is rendered indefinite.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8. Claims 1, 2, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nagai et al. (JP 2000255236A), as cited by applicant.

9. Regarding claims 1, 2, and 8, Nagai discloses a wheel suspension system as in the present invention, comprising:

a lower link 25;

a chassis underframe 5 having at least one pair of bearings (see annotated Figs.

1 & 3); and

a spring 7 having a lower end and an upper end, the lower end of which is arranged on the link and the upper end of which is arranged in a spring plate 6;

wherein the chassis underframe has a mounting;

wherein the mounting annularly surrounds the spring plate;

wherein the lower link is designed as a transverse link;

Examiner notes that the recitation "on which part of the spring plate is supported

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when the wheel suspension system is not fitted on the body of a motor vehicle" is an intermediate method step. The method of forming the device is not germane to the issue of patentability of the device itself. Therefore, this limitation has not been given patentable weight.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagai et al. (JP 2000255236A), as cited by applicant, in view of Martinez, Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent 4,771,996).

12. Regarding claim 5, Nagai discloses the claimed invention except for a spring aid. Martinez, Jr. discloses that it is known in the art to provide a spring plate 24 combined with the support of a spring aid 28. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the spring plate of Nagai with the spring aid of Martinez, Jr., in order to provide a better seat for the spring against the spring plate.

13. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagai et al. (JP 2000255236A), as cited by applicant.

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14. Regarding claim 6, Nagai discloses the claimed invention except for the at least one pair of bearings of the chassis underframe being formed by elastomeric elements. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to form the at least one pair of bearings of the chassis underframe of elastomeric elements, since it is well known in the art that elastomeric elements provide for good damping of noises and vibrations and since it has been held to be within the general skill of a worker in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use as a matter of obvious design choice. In re Leshin, 125 USPQ 416.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

15. Claims 3, 4, 7, and 9-11 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

16. Claims 12-15 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, claim objection(s), and drawing objection(s) as set forth in this Office action.

#### ***Conclusion***

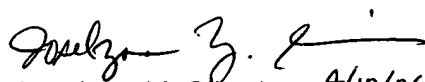
17. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

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18. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joselynn Y. Sliteris whose telephone number is 571-272-6675. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon, Thurs & Fri 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul N. Dickson can be reached on 571-272-6669. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

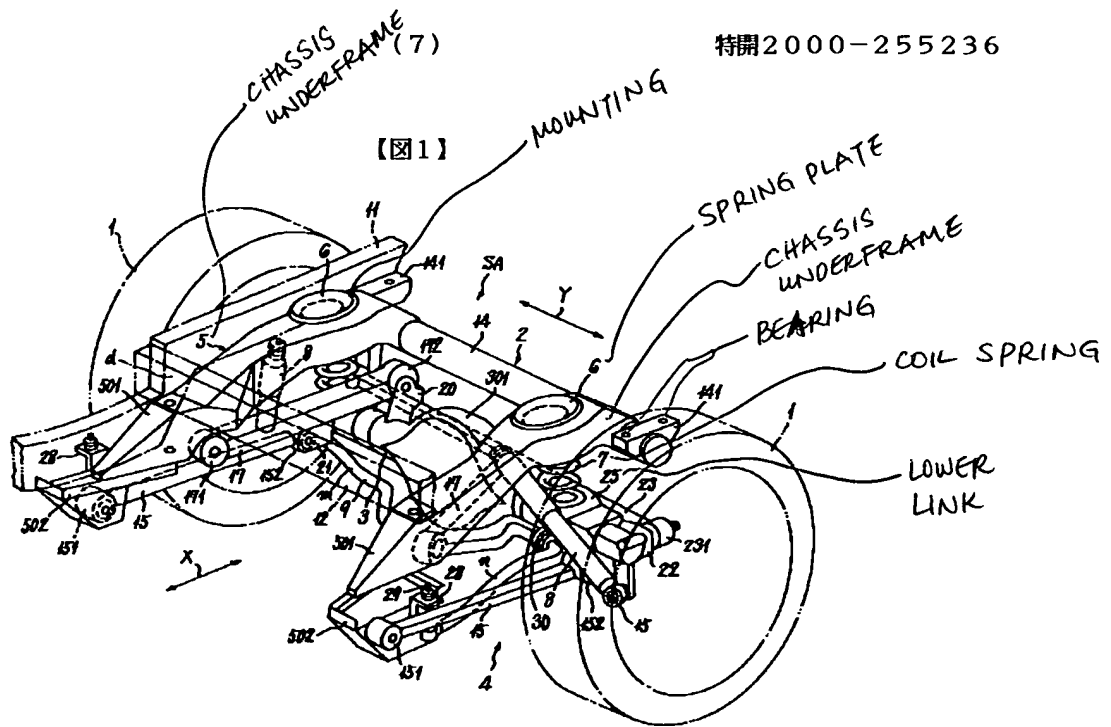
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Joselynn Y. Sliteris 4/10/06  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 3616

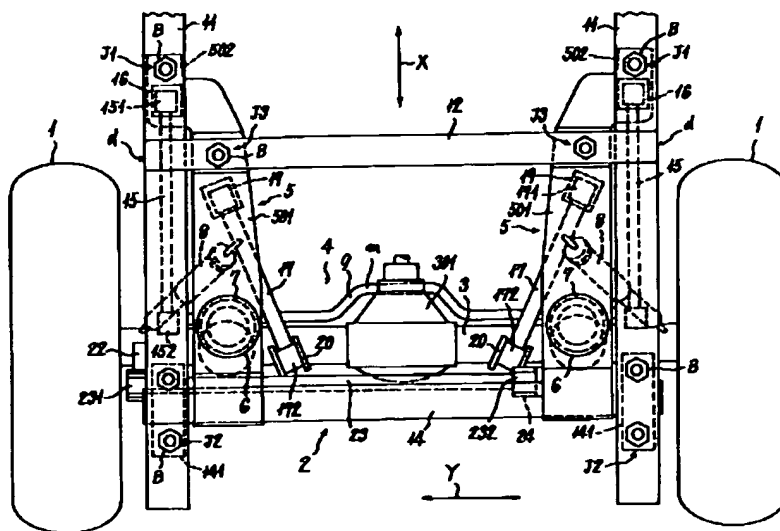
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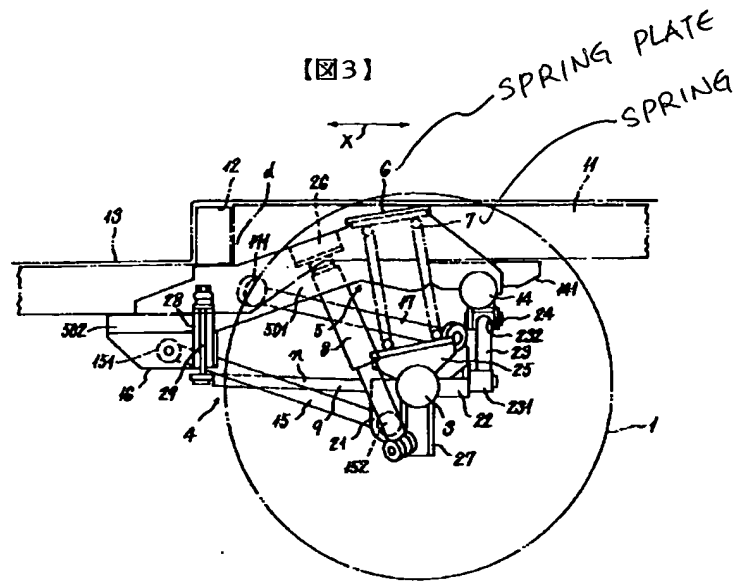
  
**DAVID R. DUNN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**





【図2】





フロントページの続き

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Fターム(参考) 3D001 AA18 AA19 BA06 BA07 DA00  
DA01 DA03 DA04 DA06  
3D003 AA01 AA04 AA06 BB02 CA48  
CA54 CA59 DA29